

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

SB 966 - HB 1231

March 16, 2015

SUMMARY OF BILL: Requires the Department of Education (DOE), in consultation with the State Board of Education (SBE), to determine a numerical score above which a student shall be deemed proficient. This score shall be based on an evaluation of all schools' achievement data, performance standards, and other criteria as established by the SBE. Prohibits a school from being identified as a priority school if the average score of all students within a school is above the numerical proficiency score. Requires the DOE to post the numerical score and other necessary information on its website.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Other Fiscal Impact – Federal funding may be withheld if the state is unable to amend its federal waiver from the requirements of the federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act. If the federal government elects to withhold funding, there may be an increase in state and local expenditures to continue operations currently paid for with federal funding. To the extent federal funding is not withheld, and the state and local governments are able to continue previous operations without the loss of federal funds, the fiscal impact of this bill is not significant.

Assumptions:

- Tennessee's No Child Left Behind (NCLB) waiver includes its current accountability system and methodology by which it identifies priority schools. This waiver includes how the state identifies and restructures priority schools.
- This methodology and accountability system will change as a result this bill. It is unknown if the state will be able to amend its current waiver and receive approval for changes from the federal government. Therefore, it is unknown if this proposed change will result in the withholding of federal funds. The state and local governments received more than \$1,000,000,000 in federal funding in FY14-15.
- No increase in DOE or SBE personnel to determine the numerical score and other criteria to determine whether a school shall be placed on the priority school list.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

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A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Jeffrey L. Spalding". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jeffrey" and last name "Spalding" clearly legible.

Jeffrey L. Spalding, Executive Director

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